

## *EPA ANNOUNCES FINAL ARSENIC STANDARD*

On October 31, 2001, the EPA affirmed the appropriateness of a maximum contaminant level (MCL), or regulatory level, of 10 parts per billion (ppb) for arsenic in drinking water. This announcement will provide millions of Americans additional protection from cancer and other health problems such as heart disease and diabetes. The announcement of the new arsenic standard which was delayed from its original January 2001 regulation, completes the review of additional independent experts sought by the EPA Administrator and the debate surrounding the appropriateness and the cost of the 10 ppb standard (particularly to small water systems).

Water systems are expected to meet the new arsenic standard by January 2006.

For information on arsenic in drinking water, contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or visit the EPA safewater website at: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater> or the arsenic website at: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/arsenic.html>

## *SAFE DRINKING WATER BRANCH STAFF RETIRES IN 2001*

In 2001, after 30+ years of service with the State of Hawaii, **Glenn Tomori**, Registered Sanitarian with the Safe Drinking Water Branch in East Hawaii, retired.

Mr. Tomori started employment with the State of Hawaii in December 1970. Glenn joined the Safe Drinking Water Branch (SDWB) as a Registered Sanitarian IV for East Hawaii in 1989. Prior to that time, he was a Registered Sanitarian IV for the Sanitation Branch and served in the Honokaa Office for several years under Supervisor Robert Leong. At that time, Glenn was required to commute daily from Hilo to Honokaa. As the RS IV in the Sanitation Branch, he assisted the Drinking Water Section by monitoring, surveying, and reporting on some of the more challenging systems on the Big Island, those of Haina and Paaupau both formerly owned by the Davies-Hamakua Sugar Company. These systems received water from the lower Hamakua Ditch, an irrigation ditch of relatively low water quality which caused the systems to struggle to meet turbidity and bacteriological standards.

Later, Glenn was able to transfer to a position in Hilo. For a short time, he functioned as the Registered Sanitarian V (supervisor) in Hilo before competing for and accepting the SDWB position in August 1989 where he remained happy and contented (we hope) until his retirement in December 2001.

Thoroughness always characterized Glenn's work. You could always ask him questions about a water system under his responsibility and received the latest and most thorough briefing you could want. He was also familiar with other conditions and situations in his East Hawaii area such as potentially public systems as bed and breakfast providers, rain-water catchment systems, and more. Glenn maintained such good working relationships with some water suppliers that they asked him to reconsider his retirement.

We know that Glenn was very supportive of his family, active in his church, local school functions and the Boy Scouts of America. Whether it was spending hours on his knees picking macadamia nuts for a band fund raiser or planting trees at Pohakuloa, assisting his son on his Eagle Scout Project, Glenn was fully involved.

We also know that Glenn has many plans for his retirement years, including making more money. We wish him the very best despite the fact that he leaves a very big hole in our program and in our hearts.



Also in 2001, after 10+ years of service with the Safe Drinking Water Branch and over 40+ in the drinking water industry, **Larry Whang**, Engineer with the Safe Drinking Water Branch, retired.

When he came to the SDWB in September 1990, Larry brought a wealth of civil and environmental engineering and drinking water treatment experience with him. At the time of his retirement from the Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) in June 1990, Larry had been the Head of the BWS's Environmental Section which included microbiological and chemistry laboratories as well as backflow prevention and environmental impact statement preparation and review. Larry had spent approximately 31 years with the BWS.

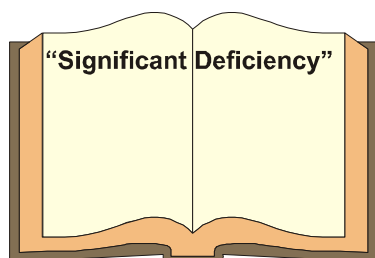
Prior to the BWS, Larry worked for the U.S. Navy for several years. His work there included the development of water treatment systems for outposts such as Diego-Garcia and a number of South Pacific islands or atolls.

The SDWB asked Larry to fill needs in both our surface water treatment and operator certification programs which he did with characteristic thoroughness. Although extremely busy, Larry always had time to lend his experience and perspective to sticky issues faced by other members of the staff. Larry's experience in dealing with people and issues helped the branch establish the Water Treatment Plant Operator Certification Program. He developed training documents and prepared many certification examinations, critically assessing every question.

On a personal level, Larry was very devoted to his wife Carol until her passing in 2000. He is still very active in his church, and recent contact with him shows him happy in this, his second retirement. Best wishes Larry!



## ***NOTICE TO STAKEHOLDERS -- AVAILABILITY OF "SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY" DEFINITION***



Under the new Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (IESWTR) requirements for sanitary surveys (40 CFR 142.16(b)(3)), the State must define "significant deficiency" for the purpose of implementing paragraph 142.16(b)(1)(ii) and 142.16(b)(1)(iii). The SDWB has developed a definition of a "significant deficiency" as well as a list of specific deficiencies for stakeholder input. Stakeholder meetings are not required under the IESWTR (effective January 1, 2002). However, the SDWB feels that requiring public water systems (PWS) to acknowledge and correct significant deficiencies identified during sanitary surveys could impact their maintenance resources and budgets or lead to violations of the State potable drinking water regulations (PDWRs).

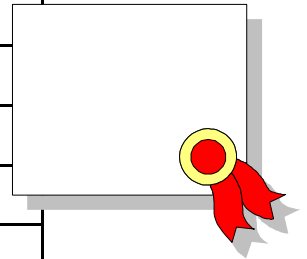
With stakeholder input, the SDWB hopes to balance a PWS' responsibility to provide safer and more reliable drinking water to its customers with the often limited capital improvement and O&M budgets of many PWSs, public and private, large and small. Electronic copies of the "Notice to Stakeholders" packet are available on the SDWB website at <http://www.hawaii.gov/health/eh/sdwb>. Your input and comments should be sent to the Safe Drinking Water Branch, 919 Ala Moana Blvd., #308, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814. The comment deadline is **February 15, 2002**. For questions regarding the "Significant deficiency" definition, please contact Michael Miyahira of the Safe Drinking Water Branch in Honolulu at 586-4258, or call direct from your island on our toll-free numbers, ext. 64258: 974-4000 from Hawai'i, 984-2400 from Maui, 274-3141 from Kaua'i, and 1-800-468-4644 from Moloka'i and Lana'i or via e-mail at [mmiyahira@eha.health.state.hi.us](mailto:mmiyahira@eha.health.state.hi.us).

## WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR CERTIFICATION EXAM RESULTS

### Water Treatment Plant Operator Certification Exams held in September

The 2001 Water Treatment Plant Operator (WTPO) certification exams were held in September 2001 on Maui, Oahu, Kauai and the Big Island. Thirty-three operators took the exam, and 28 passed for a passing rate of 85%. The breakdown by grade is as follows:

Grade	Examinees	Passed	Passing Rate
1	2	2	100%
2	25	21	84%
3	1	1	100%
4	5	4	80%
	33	28	85%



Maui had the largest number of operators taking the exam (18) and the largest percentage passing the exam (100%)

Island	Examinees	Passed	Passing Rate
Maui	18	18	100%
Oahu	8	5	63%
Kauai	5	4	80%
Big Island	2	1	50%
	33	28	85%



*Congratulations to those operators who passed the exam!* Operators taking the WTPO exams over the last five years (1997 - 2001) have consistently achieved passing rates ranging from 86% to 94%. The average over this time period has been 89%. This is a vast improvement over the average passing rate of 47% for the first four years of the exams (1993 - 1996).

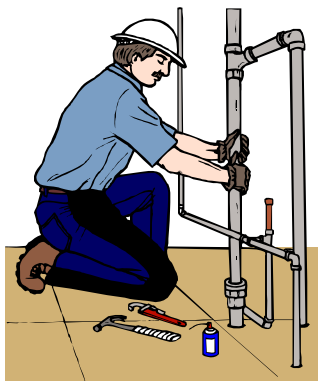
Please make note of upcoming **2002 operator certification exam dates:**

WTPO certification exam	2/12/02	(applications were due by 11/12/01)
Distribution system operator (DSO) certification exam	4/30/02	(applications due by 1/30/02)
WTPO certification exam	7/30/02	(applications due by 4/30/02)
DSO certification exam	10/29/02	(applications due by 7/29/02)

Please call Ann Takushi Zane or Nora Macariola-See at 586-4258 if you would like a copy of the application form and exam registration form for either WTPO or DSO certification. You can also download these forms from the DOH SDWB website at: <http://www.hawaii.gov/health/eh/sdwb>.

## UPDATE ON THE NEW DRINKING WATER REGULATIONS

<b>CHEMICAL CONTAMINANT REGULATIONS</b>	<b>PROPOSED</b>	<b>FINAL</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE</b>
Suspension of Unreg. Cont. Mon. (systems < 10,000)		1/8/99	3/99
Revision of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring for Systems > 10,000 and selected systems < 10,000	4/30/99	9/99	1/01
Amendment to 1999 Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulations (UCMR) List	5/15/00; 9/13/00 amends.	1/01	1/11/01
Radon (CWS on groundwater only)	11/99	mid-2002	?
Lead and Copper Rule Revisions		1/12/00	4/11/00
Radionuclides (uranium+radium+gross alpha+beta&photo emitters) (CWS and by state option NTNCWS)	proposed 7/18/91 NODA 4/21/00	12/7/00	12/08/03
Arsenic (MCL applies to CWS + NTNCWS) (and compl. determinations for orgs. + inorgs.)	6/22/00; comments due 10/31/01	1/22/01suspended until 2/22/02	7/1/02 (CCRs) 1/23/04 (compl. determinations) 1/23/06 (MCL)
MTBE (secondary regulation, unenforceable)	on hold	on hold	?
<b>SURFACE WATER TREATMENT REGULATIONS</b>	<b>PROPOSED</b>	<b>FINAL</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE</b>
Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (IESWTR) micro/crypto control -- SW & GWUDI systems serving population ≥ 10,000	7/94; 7/13/00 minor mod.	12/98; 1/16/01 minor mod.	12/01 1/1/02
Stage 1 Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products - SW & GWUDI serving population ≥ 10,000 - SW & GWUDI systems serving population < 10,000 & all GW systems	7/94; 7/13/00 minor mod.	12/98; 1/16/01 minor mod.	— 1/1/02 1/1/04
Filter Backwash Recycling (SW & GWUDI systems that practice conv. Filtration or D.F. and recycle)	4/10/00	6/8/01	12/8/03
Long Term 1 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT1ESWTR) SW & GWUDI systems serving population < 10,000	4/10/00	1/14/02	1/05 (but profiling req'd. by 7/03 & 1/04
Stage 2 Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products (All PWSs adding disinfectants)	mid-2002	mid-2003	?
Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2ESWTR) All PWSs on Surface Water	mid-2002	mid-2003	2004
<b>OTHER REGULATIONS</b>	<b>PROPOSED</b>	<b>FINAL</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE</b>
Public Notification	5/13/99	5/4/00	10/31/00 (DI) 5/6/02 (others)
Reformatting All Drinking Water Regulations – direct final	?	?	?
D.W. State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) - Interim Final Rule Final Rule (unchanged)		8/00 1/12/01	8/07/00 1/12/01
Groundwater Rule (all systems on Groundwater)	5/10/00	late 2002	?



## Cross-Connection Control & Backflow Prevention Workshop

**Last chance, one-day workshop for  
professional development and CEU credit**

**Sponsored by:** Hawaii Department of Health, Safe Drinking Water Branch, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
**Presented by:** Rural Community Assistance Corporation

Public drinking water system supervisory, managerial, operations and maintenance personnel are invited to attend and participate in a one-day, professional development workshop scheduled for Pearl City and Lanai City. The workshops are being offered one last time in February for the benefit of anyone who was interested but unable to attend any of the Cross-Connection Control & Backflow Prevention workshops before the end of last year. The workshop is designed to provide 5 training contact hours (0.6 CEU).

### CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL & BACKFLOW PREVENTION

This is the same workshop presented around the state during the last four months of 2001. The emphasis is on protection of public health, approved backflow prevention devices, industry standards and local codes for installation, inspection, testing and maintenance of devices. Training materials are from the U.S.E.P.A, Hawaii D.O.H., A.W.W.A., and USC-FCCCHR, as well as other sources in the field.

**Where/when:** Pearl City, DOH Laboratory Facility - February 12, 2002 \*  
Lanai City, Lanai Water Co. Facility - February 19, 2002 \*

**\* Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. - both workshop locations.**

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## Public Water Systems Operator & Management Training Courses

**Spring 2002: Statewide, one-day workshops  
for professional development and CEU credit**

**Sponsored by:** Hawaii Department of Health, Safe Drinking Water Branch,  
and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
**Presented by:** Rural Community Assistance Corporation

Public drinking water system operations, maintenance, supervisory, and managerial personnel are invited to attend and participate in the one-day professional development workshops scheduled for locations around the state.

Three different workshops are being offered around the state from February through June 2002 for Continuing Education Credits (CEUs) for all water system personnel. Each workshop is designed to provide five training contact hours. Note: These workshop topics will change after June 2002.

One workshop, primarily for supervisory & managerial staff and other interested personnel, will focus on *TECHNICAL, MANAGERIAL AND FINANCIAL CAPACITY AND THE WELLHEAD PROTECTION PROGRAM*. The emphasis will be placed upon awareness of the Capacity Demonstration and Evaluation procedures and improving TMF capacity in your water system. The Wellhead Protection Program will also be highlighted.

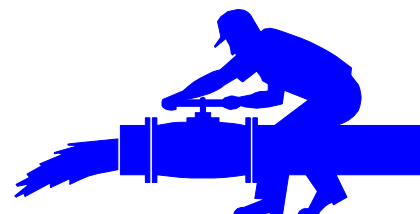


**Where/when: TMF Capacity and Wellhead Protection Workshop**

Kaunakakai, Kulana 'Oiwī - February 25, 2002 \*  
 Pearl City, DOH Laboratory Facility - February 26, 2002 \*  
 Hilo, Environmental Health Facility - March 14, 2002 \*

Lihue, Kauai War Memorial Conv. Hall - April, 2002 \* (TBA)  
 Wailuku, State Office Building - May, 2002 \* (TBA)  
 Keahole-Kona, NELHA Conference Rm. - June, 2002 \* (TBA)

A second workshop for water treatment operators and others interested in learning about water treatment will focus on *WATER TREATMENT PROCESS MONITORING AND CONTROL*. The emphasis will be on effective process monitoring, control and treatment optimization. Automated water treatment monitoring and control options are to be highlighted.



**Where/when: Treatment Process Monitoring and Control**

Lihue, Kauai War Memorial Conv. Hall - Feb. 14, 2002 \*  
 Keahole-Kona, NELHA Conference Rm. - Feb. 15, 2002 \*  
 Wailuku, State Office Building - March 12, 2002 \*  
 Pearl City, DOH Laboratory Facility - March 20, 2002 \*  
 Kaunakakai, Kulana 'Oiwī - April, 2002 \* (TBA)

Hilo, Environmental Health Facility - April, 2002 \* (TBA)  
 Wailuku, State Office Building - May, 2002 \* (TBA)  
 Lihue, Kauai War Memorial Conv. Hall - May, 2002 \* (TBA)  
 Kaunakakai, Kulana 'Oiwī - June, 2002 \* (TBA)  
 Pearl City, DOH Laboratory Facility - June, 2002 \* (TBA)

A third workshop for distribution system operators, treatment operators and other interested personnel will focus on *MONITORING REQUIREMENTS OF THE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT*. The emphasis will be on awareness of required monitoring, sampling frequency, analytical and reporting requirements. Special sampling such as repeat sampling, Phase II & V sampling, and lead & copper sampling will be included.



**Where/when: MONITORING REQUIREMENTS OF THE S.D.W.A.**

Hilo, Environmental Health Facility - Feb. 21, 2002 \*  
 Pearl City, DOH Laboratory Facility - Feb. 27, 2002 \*  
 Keahole-Kona, NELHA Conference Rm. - March 15, 2002 \*  
 Wailuku, State Office Building - March 27, 2002 \*  
 Lihue, Kauai War Memorial Conv. Hall - March 21, 2002 \*  
 Hilo, Environmental Health Facility - April, 2002 \* (TBA)  
 Pearl City, DOH Laboratory Facility - April, 2002 \* (TBA)

Wailuku, State Office Building - April, 2002 \* (TBA)  
 Pearl City, DOH Laboratory Facility - May, 2002 \* (TBA)  
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 Keahole-Kona, NELHA Conference Rm. - June, 2002 \* (TBA)  
 Pearl City, DOH Laboratory Facility - June, 2002 \* (TBA)

**\* Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. - all workshops/locations.**

**Note: TBA - To be announced in a later update of this schedule.**

The number of participants in some locations may be limited by classroom capacity. First preference to attend will be given according to earliest date of registration; once class capacity is reached, registration will be closed.

There is a required, non-refundable registration fee\*\* of \$20.00 for each person to attend each workshop. NOTE: A bank cashier’s check or postal money order made payable to the “State of Hawaii,” accompanying the registration form below, are the only acceptable methods of payment. Requisitions, purchase orders, personal checks or cash will not be accepted. The deadline for workshop registration is a postmark of not less than ten days before the scheduled date of the particular workshop .

For more information contact Glenn Johansen at (808) 896-3886 or send e-mail to [gjohanse@rcac.org](mailto:gjohanse@rcac.org). Completed registration must be mailed with fee payment. *Hawaii State agencies: call for registration fee invoice instructions.*

**Certified Operators:** Don’t miss the opportunity to earn the CEUs needed before the deadline to reapply for certification sneaks up on you. Register now!

This registration form may be duplicated.

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**RCAC WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM**

Desired workshop title:\_\_\_\_\_

Workshop location and date:\_\_\_\_\_

Name:\_\_\_\_\_ Work phone:\_\_\_\_\_

Organization:\_\_\_\_\_

Public Water System ID Number:\_\_\_\_\_ and Name (if different from above)

P.W.S. Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address:\_\_\_\_\_  
(Work) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax number:\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address:\_\_\_\_\_

Check here: [ ] **\$20.00 registration fee\*\* payable to “State of Hawaii” enclosed.**  
(per person, per workshop)

Bank cashier’s check or postal money order number:\_\_\_\_\_ (no personal checks)

Mail this form with fee payment to: **RCAC Workshop Registration**  
(at least ten days in advance) **234 Waianuenue Ave., Suite 107**  
**Hilo, Hawaii 96720**

*The Water Spot 2002 is published by the Safe Drinking Water Branch, Environmental Management Division of the Hawai'i State Department of Health and is distributed to water purveyors, water system operators, staff, consultants, and other interested parties.*

*The Water Spot 2002 may also be viewed on the Safe Drinking Water Branch's web site at:  
<http://www.hawaii.gov/health/eh/sdwb>*

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Please send your  
suggestions, ideas,  
questions or  
comments to:

**THE WATER SPOT 2002**  
Safe Drinking Water Branch  
State Department of Health  
919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

OR

Fax us at (808) 586-4370, Attn: "THE WATER SPOT 2002"

SDWB WEB SITE:

<http://www.hawaii.gov/health/eh/sdwb>

HISWAP WEB SITE:

Currently under Construction

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Director of Health

**GARY GILL**  
Deputy Director for  
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